



BRIGHTLINGSEA
URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for 1968



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BRIGHTLINGSEA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
for 1968

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Cr. F. R. G. Staffiere.

Vice Chairmen:

Cr. C. A. W. Knopp.

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R. A. STENHOUSE, L.M.S.S.A.(Lond.), D.P.H., (R.C.P. & S.,)
F.R.I.P.H.H.
Medical Officer of Health to the Urban Districts of Clacton,
Brightlingsea, Frinton and Walton, the Rural District of
Tendring and Assistant County Medical Officer.

J. COLVIN, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.,
Public Health Inspector.
Surveyor.
Meat and Food Inspector.

Telephone Number
Brightlingsea 2626

Town Hall,
Brightlingsea,
Colchester,
Essex.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report on the state of Public Health in the Urban District of Brightlingsea for 1968.

The health of the community has remained satisfactory during this year. The population has increased as in previous years by about 100 to 5,990, but the birth rate has declined slightly to 21.7 per thousand live births, although this is well above the National figure of 16.9. The death rate remains about the same as for the rest of the United Kingdom at 11.3.

Eighty eight cases of measles were notified in 1968.

The number of children attending County Clinics for immunisation amounted to 1,062, which included 254 injections against Diphtheria, Tetanus and Whooping Cough, 250 vaccinations against Smallpox, and 269 children received protection against Poliomyelitis. Measles vaccinations were started during the year and 289 injections were given.

The water supply has been satisfactory in quantity and quality during the year. The standstill order on development due to water shortage has now been removed. The average fluoride content is 0.8 to 1.8 p.p.m. The result of the chemical analysis is given elsewhere in the report.

The Bathing Pool still gives some cause for anxiety during the summer period, but owing to the care given to the Pool by staff of the Council, a reasonably satisfactory standard has been maintained.

Some delay has occurred in the construction of the new sewerage scheme, but it is hoped that completion will take place at the end of next year.

In conclusion, I would like to express my gratitude to the Council, the Public Health Committee, and officers of the Council for their co-operation during the year, and to the Staff of the Public Health Department my thanks for their excellent work.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. A. STENHOUSE,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICAL MEMORANDUM

Urban District of	...	...	Brightlingsea
Area in acres	...	...	2,852
Population:			
1968 Registrar General's Estimate			5,990
1961 Census	...	...	4,800
Density of Population per acre	...		2.1
Rateable Value	...	...	£174,602
Sum represented by penny rate	...		£725
Number of inhabited dwellings (approx.)			2,774
Total Live Births	...	...	104
Birth Rate (crude) (per 1,000 home population)			17.4
Birth Rate (corrected)	...	...	21.7
Birth Rate (England and Wales)	...		16.9
Total Live and Still Births	...		107
Total Still Births	...	...	3
Still Birth Rate	...	...	28.0
Still Birth Rate (England and Wales)	...		14.0
Total Deaths	...	...	97
Death Rate (crude) (per 1,000 home population)			16.2
Death Rate (corrected)	...	...	11.3
Death Rate (England and Wales)	...		11.9
Death of Infants under 1 year of age			-
Infant Mortality Rate	...	...	-
Infant Mortality Rate (England and Wales)			18.0
Infant Mortality Rate - legitimate			-
Infant Mortality Rate - illegitimate			-
Neo-natal Mortality Rate	...		-
(Deaths under 4 weeks old per 1,000 live births)			
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate	...		-
(Deaths under 1 week old per 1,000 total live births)			
Peri-natal Mortality Rate	...		28.0
(Stillbirths and Deaths under 1 week old combined per 1,000 live and still births)			
Number of illegitimate births	...		4
Deaths from diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)			-
Maternal Deaths (including abortion)			-
Cancer Deaths	...	...	23
Lung Cancer Deaths	...	...	5
Tuberculosis Deaths	...	...	-

LIVE BIRTHS

Male

47

Female

57

Total: 104.

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1968

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Cancer (all sites)	11	12	23
Anaemias	-	1	1
Other Diseases of Nervous System	2	1	3
Hypertensive Disease	1	1	2
Ischaemic Heart Disease	20	12	32
Other Forms of Heart Disease	1	4	5
Cerebrovascular Disease	6	6	12
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	1	2	3
Influenza	-	1	1
Pneumonia	2	1	3
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	2	-	2
Peptic Ulcer	1	1	2
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	-	1
Other Diseases of Digestive System	-	1	1
Disease of Musculo-Skeletal System	-	1	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents	-	1	1
All Other Accidents	1	2	3
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	1	-	1
	<u>50</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>97</u>

DEATH OF VARIOUS AGES DURING 1968

Under 4 weeks	-
4 weeks -- 1 year	-
1 - 5 years	-
5 - 15 years	1
15 - 25 years	1
25 - 35 years	-
35 - 45 years	2
45 - 55 years	4
55 - 65 years	14
65 - 75 years	31
75 and over	44
	<u>97</u>

PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The following figures show the number of infectious diseases which were notified in the district during 1968:-

Cases	Cases Notified	Cases to Hospital	Cases at Home	Cases Confirmed	Deaths
Infective Hepatitis	1	-	1	1	-
Measles	88	-	88	88	-
Totals:	89	-	89	89	-

TUBERCULOSIS 1968

There were two cases of Tuberculosis notified, but no deaths occurred during the year.

Total cases on the Register at the end of 1968: 26.

The age groups of the cases on the Register are as follows:-

Age Groups in Years	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Totals
	M	F	M	F	
1 - 5	1	-	-	-	1
5 - 15	1	-	-	-	1
15 - 25	3	2	1	-	6
25 - 35	3	-	1	-	4
35 - 45	4	-	-	1	5
45 - 55	4	-	-	-	4
55 - 65	2	2	-	-	4
65 - 75	1	-	-	-	1
Totals:	19	4	2	1	26

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLIES

The Tendring Hundred Waterworks Company are the Statutory Water Undertakers for the whole of the Urban District Area.

The supply is derived from Lower Park Road bore hole and the Church Road deep and shallow wells and any deficiency is made up by bulk supply from external sources.

The total number of dwelling houses supplied from the mains is estimated at 2774 and of these some 12 houses are still supplied from outside standpipes.

The Standstill Order arising from the estimated shortage of water in the north-east peninsular has now been removed and no restrictions are now imposed on development because of water supply shortage.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

CHEMICAL RESULTS IN PARTS PER MILLION

	<u>Direct from Distributing Mains</u>
Colour (Hazen)	Nil
Reaction pH	7.5
Electric Conductivity	1400
Chlorine present as Chloride	300
Hardness:	
Total	220
Carbonate	220
Non-carbonate	Nil
Nitrate Nitrogen	0.0
Nitrite Nitrogen	Absent
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.03
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	1.2
Permanganate Value	0.50
Residual Chlorine	Absent
Metals:	
Iron	0.06
Copper	0.06
Zinc	Absent
Lead	"
Turbidity (A.P.H.A. units)	Less than 1
Odour	Nil
Free Carbon Dioxide	17
Dissolved Solids dried at 180 C	950
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	275

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, has a reaction on the alkaline side of neutrality and is free from metals apart from very minute traces. The water is hard in character but its hardness and its somewhat high content of mineral and saline constituents are not considered excessive. The water is of a high standard of organic quality.

These results indicate a pure and wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic uses, from the aspect of the chemical analysis.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER SUPPLIES

Samples of water from the mains and sources have been submitted regularly for examination and found satisfactory in all cases.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

The anticipated rate of progress in connection with the construction of the new Sewage Works was not achieved and it is unlikely that the new works will be fully operative until late in 1969.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION

The following is a synopsis of the principal works carried out by the Public Health Section during 1968:

Inspections (Public Health and Housing)	860
Other inspections primarily in connection with Surveyor's duties	1021
Informal notices served	28
Informal notices complied with	28
Statutory notices complied with	10
Number of premises at which nuisances were abated	68

Schedule of housing repairs and improvements obtained:

<u>Type of Repair</u>	<u>Repairs Completed</u>
Dampness	50
Roof Defects	29
Plaster Defects	46
Pointing	7
Insufficient Drainage	15
Defective Drainage	36

<u>Type of Repair</u>	<u>Repairs Completed</u>
Insufficient or defective Closets	4
Defective Paving	3
Provision of Dustbins	34
Inadequate Water Supply	8
Dangerous Buildings	1
Defective Floors	18
Nuisances	62

Infestation:

Rats	54
Mice	7
Wasps	6

SWIMMING POOL

The policy of frequent cleansing and chlorination of the Swimming Pool has produced reasonably satisfactory bacteriological results but criticism is still received in connection with the appearance of the water in the Pool. To enable the Pool to continue operation for yet a further year major repairs to the pumping machinery was arranged for 1969. The replacement of the Swimming Pool still remains a matter for urgent attention.

CARAVANS AND CAMPING GROUNDS

Minor improvements have been carried out during the year to the Caravan Sites and a scheme of reconstruction in connection with the Colne Road Caravan Site has now been completed to deal with the large caravans which are now being used on the Western Promenade Sites.

The Local Authority continues to operate the only official Caravan and Camping Site in the district.

HOUSING

New houses and flats erected during 1968:

Private enterprise	72
Council houses	-
Council flats	-
Council bungalows	-
Standard Grants	24

FOOD

The following list shows the number of visits paid to premises at which food for human consumption is sold or prepared:--

Fruiterers	4
Cafes, Restaurants and Hotels	36
School Canteens	2
Butchers Shops	22
Fish Friers	9
Wet Fish Shops	3
Bread and Cake Shops	6
Ice Cream Vendors	9
Bakehouses	7
Poultry Shops	Nil
General Stores and Grocers	52

The following is a list of improvements obtained in food premises:--

Lack of washing facilities	3
Lack of cleanliness	5
Sanitary accommodation	4

REGISTRATION OF FOOD PREPARING PREMISES

The number of premises registered pursuant to Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act is as follows:--

Sausage meat, pressed, pickled and preserved meat	6
Sale of ice cream	26

FOOD AND DRUGS AUTHORITY

The Council is not the Food and Drugs Authority for the District.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

There are no licensed slaughterhouses in the area.

During the year the following diseased and unsound food was surrendered and condemned:--

- 10 x 9 oz. packets of Fish and Chips.
- 15 packets of 6 fish fingers
- 9 packets of 10 fish fingers

- 8 packets of small size kipper fillets
- 11 packets of 2 fish cakes
- 7 packets of 4 fish cakes
- 13 packets of 2 savoury fish cakes
- 9 packets of 2 cod steaks
- 11 packets of 2 cod portions
- 7 packets of cod in batter
- 4 packets of large plaice fillets
- 1 packet of small plaice fillets
- 1 packet of small haddock fillets
- 5 packets of 4 sausage savouries
- 12 packets of 2 rissoles
- 9 packets of 4 rissoles
- 9 packets of chicken pies
- 8 packets of chicken and ham pies
- 9 packets of steak and kidney pies
- 4 packets of savoury beef pie
- 11 packets of 6 oz. shortcrust pastry
- 9 x 12 oz. packets of chips
- 17 x 6 oz. packets of chips
- 6 x 7½ oz. packets of Buxted chicken portions
- 2 x 14 oz. packets of chicken wings
- 4 x 15 oz. packets of chicken portions
- 3 dairy cream sponges
- 4 packets of 4 eclairs
- 29 x 1 lb. packets of garden peas
- 26 x ½ lb. packets of garden peas
- 16 half portions of frozen chicken
- 7 ½ lb. packets of green beans
- 16 ¼ lb. packets of green beans
- 27 ½ lb. packets of garden peas
- 4 ¾ lb. packets of green beans
- 5 ½ lb. packets of brussell sprouts
- 4 ½ lb. packets of mixed vegetables
- 2 large packets of mousse
- 4 frozen chickens
- 27 small packets of 2 beefburgers
- 21 large packets of 4 beefburgers
- 5 4 oz. packets of braised beef slices
- 4 6 oz. packets of braised beef slices
- 11 small packets of 2 beef steaklets

Decomposition and faulty storage.

ICE CREAM

The total number of premises registered for the sale of ice cream is 26. All ice cream sold in the district is obtained from reputable sources.

BAKEHOUSES

There are 4 Bakehouses in the Urban District but none of these are underground premises. Inspections were made during the year.

SHELLFISH

The original Local Authority Oyster Purification Plant has now been demolished but a small ultra ray Plant is operated by a commercial undertaking and is used particularly in connection with the export of oysters to the continent. When in operation samples of oysters are submitted for examination to the Public Health Laboratory.

FOOD PREMISES

The following table sets out the number of food premises subject to the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960, grouped in categories of trade carried on in them and includes the following approximate information for each category separately:

- a. The number of premises.
- b. The number of premises provided with staff hand-washing facilities in compliance with Regulation 16.
- c. The number of premises subject to compliance with Regulations 19 which requires, in food premises in which open food is handled, the provision of sufficient sinks or other facilities for washing food and food equipment.
- d. The number of premises at C above actually fitted to comply with Regulation 19.

Premises	a.	b.	c.	d.
Fruiterers	5	5	5	5
Cafes, Restaurants and Hotels	24	23	24	23
School Canteens	2	2	2	2
Butchers Shops	4	3	4	3
Fish Friers	2	2	2	2
Wet Fish Shops	2	2	2	2
Bread and Cake Shops	6	6	6	6
Bakehouses	4	4	4	4
General Stores and Grocers	24	24	24	24
	<u>73</u>	<u>71</u>	<u>73</u>	<u>71</u>

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse disposal is by controlled tipping and adequate land is available at present for this method. A weekly collection of refuse is provided throughout the area.

THE OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

(a) Registrations and General Inspections:

Class of Premises	Number of premises registered during the year	Total number registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Offices	5	28	34
Retail Shops	Nil	36	67
Wholesale Shops	1	-	--
Warehouses	-	-	--
Catering Establishments open to the Public	1	6	3
Canteens	-	2	2
Fuel Storage Depots	--	2	5
Totals:	7	74	111

(b) 111 visits of all kinds by Inspectors to registered premises.

(c) Analysis of persons employed in registered premises by workplace.

Class of Workplace (1)	Number of Persons Employed (2)
Offices	99
Retail Shops	93
Wholesale Departments	
Warehouses	9
Catering Establishments open to the Public	21
Canteens	9
Fuel Storage Depots	7
Total:	238
Total Males:	113
Total Females:	125

- (d) Exemptions Nil
- (e) Prosecutions Nil
- (f) Number of inspectors appointed under Section 52
(1) or (5) of the Act ... 2
- (g) Number of other staff employed for most of their
time on work in connection with the Act ... Nil

During the year 180 visits and inspections to premises of all descriptions within the provinces of the Act were carried out. Co-operation from the employers and owners of premises in carrying out the inspections and requirements of the Act was good.

A large proportion of shops within the district are family owned and managed and, therefore, are not within the scope of the Act.

Some informal notices regarding defects to Offices and Shops were served and in all cases the defects were speedily rectified thus eliminating the necessity of legal action.

Since the implementation of the Act, all offices and Shops within the area have been registered and receive an inspection in most cases, twice per year. Parts of the Act within the jurisdiction of the Fire Authority have been dealt with by that Authority.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

PART I OF THE ACT.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of Inspect- ions (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	10	10	2	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	42	50	12	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	11	4	--	Nil
Totals:	63	64	14	Nil

2. Cases in which defects were found.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions, they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases".)

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.)	-	-	3	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	1	-	1	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	-	-	-	-	-
Conveniences (S.7.)					
(a)					
Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b)					
Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	2	2	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Totals:	3	2	4	-	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT

SECTIONS 133 and 134

Section 133				Section 134
Nature of work	Number of outworkers in August list re- quired by Section 133 (1) (c)	Number of cases of default in send- ing lists of the Council	Number of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	Number of instances of work in unwholesome premises
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Wearing apparel, making, etc.	3	-	-	-

